

REMARKS / DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

Claims 1-9 are pending in the application, where claim 10 has been canceled by this amendment without prejudice. Applicants reserve the right to reintroduce subject matter deleted herein at a later time during the prosecution of this application or continuing applications.

Applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledging the claim for priority and receipt of certified copies of all the priority document(s).

By means of the present amendment, the current Abstract has been deleted and substituted with the enclosed New Abstract which better conforms to U.S. practice.

By means of the present amendment, claims 1-4 have been amended for non-statutory reasons, such as for better form including beginning the dependent claims with 'The' instead of 'A', and changing "characterized in that" to --wherein--. Such amendments to claims 1-4 were not made in order to address issues of patentability and Applicants respectfully reserve all rights under the Doctrine of Equivalents.

The Office Action indicates that trademarks in the Application should be capitalized. In response, the specification has been amended as suggested by the Examiner.

The Office action rejects claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. §101. Without agreeing with the position forwarded in the Office Action, and in the interest of advancing prosecution, claim 10 is cancelled without prejudice. The cancellation of claim 10 renders moot this rejection.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. 5,699,106 (Matsubara). It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-9 are patentable over Matsubara for at least the following reasons.

Matsubara is directed to an interactive program selecting system that performs channel selection in a simplified fashion, such as using menus shown in

FIGs 6A-6B. For example, a user may select 'sports' from a menu, and then select baseball from a further menu.

It is respectfully submitted that Matsubara does not teach or suggest the present invention as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly recited in independent claims 5-6 which, amongst other patentable elements, recites (illustrative emphasis provided):

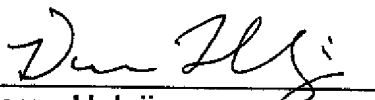
displaying the interactive subtitle in response
to the activating act including displaying
simultaneously marked portions of the interactive
content and markers that mark the marked portions.

Matsubara does not even disclose or suggest displaying any markers, let alone displaying simultaneously marked portions of the interactive content and markers that mark the marked portions, as recited in independent claims 1 and 5-6.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1 and 5-6 are allowable. In addition, claims 2-4 and 7-9 are allowable at least because they depend from independent claims 1 and 6, as well as for the separately patentable elements contained in each of the dependent claims.

In view of the foregoing, applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of record, allow all the pending claims, and find the application in condition for allowance. If any points remain in issue that may best be resolved through a personal or telephonic interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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